

# GRAPEVINE

## "The Pastor's Page"

July 21, 2016

### When Bad News Has the Headline...

If you're like me, the evening news and front page headlines have not been the highlight of your day. Lately, I have been leaning into the Apostle Paul's words in Romans 8:26 which reflect the thought that when we don't know what (or how) to pray the Spirit intercedes with wordless groans. At times such as these, I find myself grateful for those who can put words to my deep sighs. I offer a prayer of lament written by The Rev. Dr. Laurie Kraus for those killed and injured by a semi-truck driver who systematically drove through crowds in the French Mediterranean resort city of Nice this past week. May this prayer be helpful to you in these days when disconcerting news seems to have a hold on the headlines...

Faithfully Yours,

*Lou*

*We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed....  
2 Corinthians 4: 8,9*

God, whose presence we yearn toward in the stillness after our shaken, broken voices and the fires of violence fall silent: we have no words left.

The words others have said: "horrific" "worst" "unspeakable" "impossible" have been spoken so many times that we can no longer hear them.

Our hearts have broken so often, we cannot feel.

Our hope has been tried, and, we confess in sorrow, has been found wanting.

There has been too much terror, and not enough answers; too many lost lives with too little time to grieve them all; too much violation of the ordinary and not enough glimpse of the holy to hold us fast.

But You, oh God: beyond our words, beneath our hope: be the creative breath that orders our chaos; the mercy and justice that compels us to action; the Love that is stronger than death.

We ask you again, for we have nowhere else to turn—

Hold us fast, when we cannot hold on any longer.

Walk with us through the valley of the shadow...

Turn us away from despair, that we may not grow weary in well-doing

Triune God, grant us *liberté, égalité, fraternité*:

...the liberty of your love that conquers fear and evil

...the mind of your Son, who did not consider equality with You a thing to be exploited, but emptied himself

...the fraternity of your Spirit, beyond our divisions, to bind us together as one family in your kingdom of mercy and peace.

Amen.

### Inside

- Disciple Bible Study
- Blessing of Professional Educators and Backpacks
- Volunteers needed for Christian Education
- Ruth's Harvest
- Meet the Gerlachs
- Praise Fest at the Rec Park

# Happy Birthday to...

August 1

Marjorie Benson  
Brody Fake  
Judith Morris

August 2

Tyler Grim  
John Warcup

August 3

Soo Reber  
Rebecca Sayres

August 4

Ken Ball  
Daniel Farnham

August 5

Pam Fake  
Jacob Hiller  
Erica Hoover  
Rebekah Small  
Kyle Smarsh

August 6

Emily Delacruz  
Phil Hunt  
Liam Mosser  
Nicholas Shpak  
Carolyn Warcup

August 7

Aaron Brownley  
John Kuhn  
Carolyn Westfall

August 8

Jordan Garrett  
Liam Palmer

August 9

Wayne Conover  
Ron Knutson  
Stephanie Rathgeber

August 11

Emma Bahm  
Ronald Clark

August 12

Alan Moyer

August 13

Ayden Dillon  
Elizabeth Fake  
Amelia Flinger

August 14

Joan Chandon  
Grant Doehring  
Margaret Doehring  
Sam Doehring

August 15

Elsie Dillman  
Dan Ecker  
Megan Gochenauer  
Scott Hartwig  
Jennifer Tindall

August 16

Rhett Mosser

August 17

Patty Ann Welles

August 18

Ron Jones  
Lois Kime

August 19

Gabriel Contreras

August 21

Beverley Bigham  
Charles Fatzinger  
Mark Grim

John Peterson

Samantha Sites

Yancy Unger

August 22

Patricia Smith

August 23

Ann Cowden  
Niles Grimm  
Betsy Illick  
Scott Keller  
Marilyn McQuaide

August 24

Kathleen Faloon  
Cheryl Wagner  
Travis Whitney

August 25

Marie Duncan  
Jane Gwyn

John Horner

August 26

Harry Small  
Samuel Tomassini

August 27

Elaine King  
Lionel Wells

August 28

Eliza Dreves  
Les Heggan  
Evan Snyder  
Sean Snyder  
Connor Weikert

August 29

Emma Adams  
Dylan McQuaide  
Randy Parmentier  
Ken VanHoutte

August 30

Naomi Peirce  
Deborah Wolf

August 31

Betty Brownley  
Alisa Carbaugh  
Cody Kiefer  
Scott Snyder



### From the Family of Dottie Heflin

To our dear GPC Family ~ Words could never express the depth of gratitude, appreciation, and love that we have for all of you for the support and care given to our entire family after the sudden and tragic loss of our beloved wife, mother, and grandmother. To Pastor Dave and Pastor Lou, your visits, phone calls, and the beautiful words spoken at Dottie's funeral have been a great source of comfort to us. Thank you to the choir, and specifically, Dave & Pat Conklin, Brandon Dillon, and Emily Koons for the special music. They were all favorites of hers. To those who served on the luncheon committee, thank you for providing the meal after her services. As we move forward, we know without a doubt that the love and prayers of this congregation will go with us as we walk through our grief.

In Christian Love,  
Dick Heflin

Mary, Ron, Melissa & Erin Weigle  
Diane, Chadd & Connor Weikert

I would like to thank everyone who volunteered for the Adams County Reach workcamp. The camp was a huge success with 297 campers working on 33 homes in Adams County Area. Thank you for all your support.

Bill Faloon  
Adams County Workcamp Director

**A HUGE THANK YOU** to all the people who turned out to help load the tractor trailer going to South Dakota: Ross Brownley, Dennis Dowd, Sue Kolmer, Pat Conklin, Lucy Breighner, John & Pam Musselman, Savannah Graybill, Chelsea Hollowell, Ken Elledge, Benjy Conover, Kevin & Marion Hollowell, Allen Duncan, Shirley Carbaugh, Jim Whitmore, Jess Whitmore, Pat Bentzel, Austin Bentzel, Bradley Grove and 13 football players from Fairfield High School.

## Disciple Bible Studies for the fall will be

**Disciple I** – will meet at 5 PM on Sunday evenings. This 34-week course will move through the biblical story from Creation to the New Jerusalem.

**Jesus & the Gospels** - will meet at 5 PM on Sunday Evenings or 10 – 12 on Monday Mornings.

This 30-week course will study the portrait of Jesus found in the four Gospels – Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. The word “in” used in the titles signals that this study takes an approach different from the familiar “life and teaching of Jesus” approach of reading stories of what Jesus said and did. We focus on Jesus himself by the ways they situate him in time and place.

Fall Disciple Bible Study groups are forming now. Please stop by the Christian Education table in Fellowship Hall or contact Cheryl Betts at [gpcdce@gettysburgpresbyterian.org](mailto:gpcdce@gettysburgpresbyterian.org) or call 334-1235, ext. 5. This is a wonderful way to get to know a small group of people and study God’s Word together. Study guides are \$40 (Disciple I) and \$49 (Jesus & the Gospels).

## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION DATES TO REMEMBER

Sunday, August 21 <sup>st</sup>	Honoring Professional Educators
Sunday, August 28 <sup>th</sup>	Blessing of Backpacks Presenting Bibles to 3 Year Olds
Sunday, September 11 <sup>th</sup>	Kick Off Sunday All Sunday School classes resume Presenting Bibles to new 2 <sup>nd</sup> Graders Disciple Bible Studies – I Begins Jesus & the Gospels – Begins
Monday, September 12 <sup>th</sup>	Jesus & the Gospels Bible Study Begins
Wednesday, September 7 <sup>th</sup>	Orientation, Registration Meeting for Youth Club – Parents and youth at 7 PM
Wednesday, September 14 <sup>th</sup>	Youth Club Kickoff
Sunday, September 18 <sup>th</sup>	5:30-6:30 MidSHIP & SHIP Ice Cream Social / Kick Off



## Blessing of Backpacks

**Sunday, August 28<sup>th</sup>** we would like all children and youth to bring their backpacks to worship. We will have the blessing of the backpacks during the Children’s Message and have a token to give each child to go on their backpacks. Our children and youth deal with so many stresses nowadays – academic, extracurricular, social, etc. In the midst of all these stresses, we want them to have a tangible reminder that they are always being upheld by the love of God and the love and prayers of their congregation. What better tangible reminder than the backpack that they lug around with them all day long? So, if you know any children or youth, encourage them to bring their backpacks to worship on Sunday, August 28<sup>th</sup>.

**Professional Educators, Principals, Superintendents** – **Sunday, August 21<sup>st</sup>** we are inviting you to come to worship for a blessing by the Director of Christian Education. We want to bless you as you enter a new school year. We know the pressure that our culture puts on educators to rectify all kinds of family and social problems that have made this profession both vastly more crucial and infinitely more difficult. Please join us on Sunday, August 21<sup>st</sup> as we affirm educators serving in schools as called to a holy and honorable vocation.



**Local Missions: RUTH'S HARVEST**

School is out for the summer, but food items are still being collected to be able to start the weekly take-home backpacks as soon as school starts again. Thank you to many of you who have been faithful in adding some of these food supplies to your grocery cart while shopping for your family. To learn that almost half of the elementary school children in our area qualify for subsidized school meal programs and are in need of this kind of assistance in order to eat on weekends is almost unbelievable to the rest us. Pick up a flyer on the Local Missions bulletin board in Fellowship Hall designating some of the items needed. For more info on Ruth's Harvest or how to volunteer with making up the backpacks, contact Jerry & Elly Cleaver @ 717-359-0419.

**NEED A RIDE?**

If you are having trouble attending church services and/or church functions due to not having transportation, let the Deacons help you. We are only a phone call away.



The transportation Deacon July 11 - August 14 is Cathy Gardner at 337-3233.

**“Calendar of Giving”**

The Calendar of Giving is an opportunity for our congregation to support numerous local organizations. Through this program, we identify local organizations that are in need of smaller donations. Each month, we will be collecting specific items for the identified organization.

For the month of:

**July**

We are collecting items for

**Manos Unidas**

Office Supplies - reams of paper, Post-It-Notes, pens, pencils, file folders, tablets, craft supplies, washable paints, paintbrushes, crayons, glue, colored markers, construction paper.

**Who is our neighbor?  
MIGRANT WORKERS MINISTRY  
Friend-a-Camp**

Each year GPC has welcomed a workcamp of migrant workers in late summer to early autumn. A group of us will plan to join with them for a time of fellowship and worship. We also bring them Welcome Kits that include toiletries, towels, etc., for each member of the camp we are assigned to visit, usually about a dozen. The best day to visit them is on a Sunday afternoon; this year's date yet to be determined, but will be announced as soon as more is known. As the plans are more definite, we will put out a list of items needed to fill this welcome kits, as well as signing up members to participate in the visit. If you have Spanish skills, I would encourage you to join those of us with little to none. Also, if you own and would be willing to loan out a Cornhole/Beanbag Game or other similar game or activity that makes for easy group participation, contact Rachel Parmentier 334-3415

**From July 1 to  
August 31**

Penny Messenger,  
GPC's Administrative  
Assistant,  
is on **“summer hours”**  
which are:

**Mon. - Thurs.  
8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.**

**Off on Fridays.**

**Sometimes It's Hard to Ask for Help**



We're brought up to be strong, self-sufficient, independent people. We tend to think that if we ask for help, it is a sign of weakness. So we try to keep our struggles hidden, stuffed deep inside. However, that's not God's plan. Galatians 6:2 says, "Bear one another's burdens, And so fulfill the law of Christ." God wants us to care for Others - and allow others to care for us in our time of need.

If you're sad or struggling inside, don't suffer alone. Ask for help. We've got a team of Stephen Ministers who are ready to listen, care, encourage, pray, and help you through a tough time. (It's confidential too!) Find out more about Stephen Ministry by talking with one of our Referrals Coordinators. Call the church office today 717-334-1235. Our Stephen Minsters are there to care!

## Meet the Gerlachs!

On Sunday, July 24, Bryan and Emily Gerlach (Tom Piper's daughter & son-in-law), our missionaries to Thailand, will be with us during worship and will talk with us about their work there. The Mission & Interpretation Committee is excited to announce that following the 10:30 service we will host a luncheon at the Pike Restaurant for the Gerlachs. All are welcome to use this opportunity to visit with them.

Members of GPC,  
The Heritage Hall Committee is looking for any GPC documents, bulletins, or photographs that have historical significance and could be given and used for our rotating display. If you have anything to donate, please contact me at [dalemolina9to4@gmail.com](mailto:dalemolina9to4@gmail.com). Please describe your item and I will get back to you ASAP.

Thanks... Dale Molina

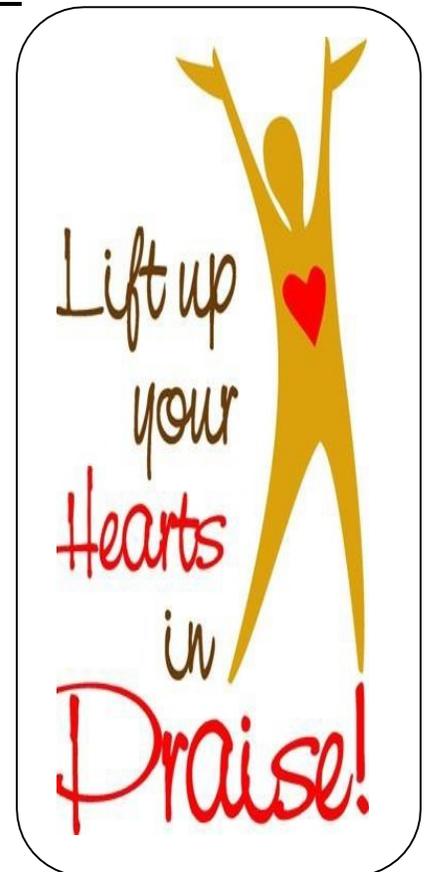
If you have put your name on the flower chart in Fellowship Hall to sponsor flowers for Sunday morning worship, please Complete the Flower Order Form and place it in the wall rack next to the flower chart in the section labeled Completed Flower Order Forms Only.

## Praise Fest at Rec Park Amphitheater

On **Saturday, August 13**, thirteen area churches are sponsoring a **Praise Fest from 5:00-8:00 pm at the Gettysburg Rec Park Amphitheater (off of Howard Avenue)**. This event will include five different Christian bands, a choir, children's activities, two messages (one in English and one in Spanish), free hamburgers, hot dogs and more. There will also be opportunities for sharing prayer requests and lots of fellowship and fun!

**This is the third year this event has been held as a way for churches, congregations and the community to work together in bringing a greater presence of the Gospel's Good News beyond the walls of our churches. Such ministries as Gettysburg C.A.R.E.S., Ruth's Harvest, "Ashes To Go" on Ash Wednesday, have been an outgrowth of this "God On the Ground" initiative. Bring a chair or a blanket and join us for some or part of this community event!**

**In the event of rain, the event will be canceled.**



# August 2016

1	7:00 p.m. Mission & Interpretation					6
2		12:00 p.m. Men's Interfaith 6:00 p.m. Historic Church Walking Tour (East) 7:15 p.m. Cont. Ministry Team	9:30 a.m. Mom's Board 6:30 p.m. Adult Discipleship 6:00 p.m. Youth Band			
3		Installation of Video Equipment in the Sanctuary -----				
4						
5						
6						
7						
8	6:30 p.m. Christian Ed.	7:30 a.m. Habitat Board 1:00 p.m. Foursquare Knitting Group	5:30 p.m. Welcome & Outreach 6:00 p.m. Historic Church Walking Tour (West)	10:00 a.m. GPC Prayer Shawl Ministry 6:00 p.m. Youth Band		13
9						
10						
11						
12						
13						
14	11:45 a.m. Deacons 4:00 p.m. Session					
15	6:30 p.m. Worship & Music	7:00 p.m. Stephen Ministry Supervision	6:00 p.m. Historic Church Walking Tour (East)	12 NOON Newsletter Deadline 6:00 p.m. Youth Band		20
16						
17						
18						
19						
20						
21	S. Dakota Mission Report 10:00 a.m. Puppet Show Honoring Professional Educators					
22						
23		1:00 p.m. Foursquare Knitting Group	6:00 p.m. Historic Church Walking Tour (West) 7:00 p.m. Healthcare 4 All	6:00 p.m. Youth Band	5:30 p.m. Karchner/Staley Wedding Rehearsal	27
24						
25						
26						
27						
28	Bibles to 3-year olds Blessing of the Backpacks		6:00 p.m. Historic Church Walking Tour (East)			
29						
30						
31						

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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**Gettysburg Presbyterian Church Mission Statement**

Gettysburg Presbyterian Church believes that God calls us to invite people to faith in Jesus Christ, and equip them to grow as His fully devoted followers. As disciples we:

- \* study regularly
- \* pray daily
- \* witness boldly
- \* live faithfully
- \* serve passionately
- \* give generously
- \* worship weekly

**Next Newsletter Deadline:**  
**Noon, Thursday, July 28, 2016**

**July 2016**  
**GPC WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

**Summer Worship Schedule**

Our Summer Worship Schedule continues through August!

**9:00 a.m.**  
**Contemporary Worship**

**10:30 a.m.**  
**Traditional Worship**

Make worship a part of your Summer!

**Contemporary Worship @ 9:00 a.m.**  
**Traditional Worship @ 10:30 a.m.**

<b>July 24</b>	God of the In-Between
<b>July 31</b>	Should Christians Vaccinate their Children? Mexico Mission Report
<b>August 7</b>	Dealing with Losses Communion
<b>August 14</b>	Your Questions for the Pastor Honduras Mission Report